

RURAL DISTRICT OF DROXFORD

IN THE COUNTY OF SOUTHAMPTON.

ANNUAL

Report of the Medical Officer of Health

For the Year ended December 31st, 1915.

DROXFORD,
March, 1916.

GENTLEMEN,

Under the Orders of the Local Government Board, relative to Medical Officers of Health, every Medical Officer is required to make an Annual Report to the end of December in each year, and such Annual Report shall comprise :—

I.—A summary of the action taken during the year for preventing the spread of disease.

II.—An account of the Sanitary State of the District generally at the end of the year.

III.—An account of the enquiries made by such Officer as to conditions injurious to health existing in the District, and of the proceedings relating to such conditions in which he has taken part or advised under the Public Health Act.

IV.—Tabular Statements of the Sickness and Mortality within the District, classified according to diseases, ages, and localities.

I.—A summary of the action taken during the year for preventing the spread of disease.

Smallpox.—No case.

Measles.—One case at Denmead in March; two cases at Denmead, three cases at Shedfield, five cases at Swanmore, and two cases at Curdrige in April; one case at Droxford and one at Upham in May; eight cases at Upham in June; one case at Westmeon in September; two cases at Droxford, sixty-seven cases at Westmeon, and three cases at Bishop's Waltham in October; four cases at Bishop's Waltham in November; one case at Droxford and one at Westmeon in December. In only one village did it spread to any extent, and that at Westmeon, where the Schools were closed. The families affected were excluded from School.

German Measles.—One case in April at Exton and one case in May at Westmeon.

Scarlet Fever.—Three cases notified in the same family at Oatlands Lane, Curdrige, in January, a sister staying at Hampstead had scarlet fever and wrote home several times, and no doubt the infection was carried in the letters, the mother contracted the disease while nursing her children and died; another case was notified in the same family as above in Oatlands Lane, Curdrige, in March; two cases notified in May, one at Durley Brook, contracted at Eastleigh, and the other at East End, Westmeon, could not trace origin; one case notified in June at High Street, Hambledon, contracted at Tidworth Park Camp, case was not spotted, and the man came home on leave, when he began to peel freely went to the local doctor, who diagnosed it as scarlet fever; five cases notified in July, all at Bishop's Waltham, one case in High Street, the father of the child went to house where the case was notified last month at Hambledon, and no doubt brought infection home with him, one case in Bank Street, contracted from the case in High Street, and three cases in the same family at Ashton Cottages, a brother had scarlet fever at Winchester Isolation Hospital, and probably brought infection home with him; two cases notified in August, one in Bank Street, Bishop's Waltham, could not trace origin, and the other at Woodlands, Westmeon, could not trace

origin; three cases notified in September, two cases in the same family at Denmead, and the other case at Curdridge, all imported; three cases notified in October, one at Mill Road, Denmead, contracted at Portsmouth, and the other two cases in the same family at Hundred Acres, could not trace origin. There were twenty-one cases in all notified during the year, they were all isolated in their own homes, supplied with disinfectants, and the houses, &c., disinfected afterwards.

Mumps.—Very few cases during the year, only one case coming to my knowledge at Newtown, Bishop's Waltham, in August. Family affected was excluded from School.

Diphtheria.—One case notified in April at Hall Court, Shedfield, badly covered cesspool close to house, and a privy cesspit within five yards of house, had cesspool properly covered, and privy cesspit cleaned out and a bucket substituted, no further spread; one case notified in July at Soberton, cleaning out a cesspool at the back of neighbouring house; two cases notified in November, one at Shirrell Heath, slop water running into a ditch close to back door, had the ditch cleaned out, and slops carried into a cesspit some distance from house, and the other case at Closewood, Denmead, no sanitary defect, could not trace origin; and five cases notified in December, three of which were at Shirrell Heath, one case in the same family as case notified in November, and the other two in the same family, foul privy cesspit at the back, I had the cesspit cleaned out and a bucket substituted, one case at Bunker's Hill, Denmead, sink drain unventilated, had drain ventilated, and the other case at Kingsmeads, foul privy cesspit, had cesspit cleaned out, and a bucket substituted. There were nine cases in all notified during the year, they were all isolated in their own homes, injected with antitoxin, supplied with disinfectants, and the houses, &c., disinfected afterwards. The families affected were excluded from School. In no instance was there any spread to another house.

Enteric Fever.—Two cases notified in September, one case at Lodge Hill, Newtown (Soberton), contracted at Wickham in

neighbouring district, and brought home to Newtown with it, wrote to Medical Officer of Health of neighbouring district *re* same, and the other case at Shedfield, no sanitary defect on the premises, and the water supply from the Gosport Water Company's main. Both cases were supplied with disinfectants, stools were disinfected, and houses, bedding, &c., disinfected afterwards, they both made good recoveries, and there was no further spread.

Diarrhœa.—Was not very prevalent during the year, one fatal case of a child under one year of age.

Influenza.—Was fairly prevalent during January and February, and a few cases in December. Five fatal cases.

Whooping Cough.—Was very prevalent at Denmead during January and February and a few cases in March, the Schools being closed from January 25th to March 5th inclusive on account of it; one case at Soberton, and one at Exton in May; three cases at Exton in June; four cases at Exton in July; and one case at Warnford in December; the children affected were excluded from School. Two fatal cases.

Chicken-pox.—Two cases at Curdridge and two cases at Newtown (Soberton) in March; one case at Newtown (Soberton) and one case at Denmead in April; two cases at Swanmore and twenty-six cases at Shedfield in November; and three cases at Shedfield in December. The families affected were excluded from School.

Erysipelas.—One case notified in February at Swanmore, no sanitary defect; one case notified in March at Shirrell Heath, no sanitary defect; one case notified in April at Upham, slops thrown just outside back door; one case notified in August at Soberton, no sanitary defect; one case notified in September at Swanmore, no sanitary defect; two cases notified in October, one at Lower Upham, disease contracted at Eastleigh and came home with it, there was a foul privy cesspit at the back, which I had cleaned out, filled in, and a bucket substituted, and the other case at Soberton Heath, no sanitary

defect; two cases notified in November, one at Wintershill Common, Bishop's Waltham, foul privy cesspit at the back, which I had cleaned out, filled in, and a bucket substituted, and the other case at Shore Lane, Bishop's Waltham, no sanitary defect; and one case at Anthill Common, Denmead, in December, foul privy cesspit at the back, which was cleaned out, filled in, and a bucket substituted. There were ten cases in all notified during the year, they were all supplied with disinfectants, and their rooms, &c., disinfected afterwards. No fatal case.

Anthrax.—No case. A beast at Manor Farm, Westbury, Westmeon, died from anthrax, the carcase was burnt, the sheds lime-washed, and the Manor Farm declared an infected place.

Tetanus.—No case.

Poliomyelitis.—No case.

Cerebro-Spinal Fever.—One case notified in March at Bishop's Waltham, there were some troops billeted in the place at the time, and the man had been to some concerts attended largely by the troops, but there was no case among the troops, and no sanitary defect on the premises; I had all the billets and public institutions and buildings used by the soldiers disinfected; the other case, at Beeches Hill, Bishop's Waltham, in October, the man had been cleaning out some old sheds, containing some old sacks, that had been used as bedding by gipsies, the sink drain at his house was unventilated, he had had no intercourse with any troops, and there were none in the neighbourhood at the time; in both cases the contacts were isolated, swabs taken and their throats and noses sprayed with permanganate of potash 1 in 1000. All the swabs of contacts were negative. In both cases the coffins were not taken into the church, and none of the contacts attended the funerals. I had the houses, bedding, &c., thoroughly disinfected afterwards. Both cases proved fatal, and there was no further spread.

Ringworm.—One case at Swanmore in June; one case at Soberton in October; one case at Hambledon in November; and one case at Bishop's Waltham in December; they were all excluded from School and treated.

Impetigo.—A fair number of cases came to my notice during the year; four cases at Denmead and seven cases at Newtown (Soberton) in January; three cases at Exton, and forty cases at Bishop's Waltham in February; two cases at Bishop's Waltham, thirteen cases at Denmead, and two cases at Shedfield in March; ten cases at Denmead and two cases at Bishop's Waltham in April; one case at Soberton in June; four cases at Swanmore in September; one case at Swanmore, one case at Newtown (Soberton), and one case at Droxford in October; seven cases at Newtown (Soberton), three cases at Soberton, and one case at Swanmore in November; two cases at Newtown (Soberton) and two cases at Soberton in December. They were all excluded from School and treated.

Scabies.—Was not very prevalent during the year, four cases at Denmead in March; and one case at Denmead in October. They were all excluded from School.

II.—An account of the Sanitary State of the District generally at the end of the year.

Water Supply.—During the year many of the well waters in Droxford contained an excess of nitrates, which I attributed to the excessively wet season, washing the soluble nitrates out of the soil. I took samples, and sent them to the County Laboratory for chemical and bacteriological examination, and the reports were favourable, except in one case, where there was good reason for pollution.

Excrement Disposal.—The excrement in the district generally is disposed of into dead wells in the better class of houses (in some instances into septic tanks and filter beds), and in the lower classes into privy cesspits, buckets, and earthclosets, which are cleaned out by the tenants themselves. Five insanitary privies were abolished, and earthclosets substituted,

sixteen defective privies repaired and eight cases remaining over at the end of the year. In Bishop's Waltham the cesspools, privies, and buckets are cleaned out by contract, under the supervision of the District Council, cesspools on demand, privies and buckets twice a week. The cesspools and privies have been deodorised with crude sulphate of iron, enabling the contractor to clean them out in the daytime, which has greatly facilitated his work, which has been done in a satisfactory manner. The excrement is carted right away in a covered tun, between the hours of 11 p.m. and 6 a.m.

Disposal of House Refuse.—The house refuse throughout the district generally is dealt with by the tenants themselves, in many instances being dug into their gardens.

In Bishop's Waltham the house refuse is removed by contract, under the supervision of the District Council; each house has an ashbox, the man goes round twice a week, empties the ashboxes, and takes the refuse right away in a covered cart early in the morning.

III.—An account of the enquiries made by such Officer, as to conditions injurious to health, existing in the District, and of the proceedings relating to such conditions, in which he has taken part or advised under the Public Health Act.

Premises and Occupations controlled by Bye-laws and Regulations.—There are no Bye-laws or Regulations in force in the District, except Regulations controlling cowsheds, dairies, and milkshops, since which have been in force, the cowsheds are well constructed, lighted, properly ventilated, drained, and paved, but there is room for improvement, especially as regards the grooming of cows and the removal of manure to some distance from the sheds.

There are no lodging houses or cellar dwellings in the District; there are two cases of an offensive trade carried on in the District, both knacker's yards, one at Denmead and the other at Swanmore, they are both well away from dwellings, are

frequently visited, and kept in a cleanly state. During the year the Council has had under their consideration the question of adopting Building Bye-Laws for the District, but, owing to the war, they decided to postpone further consideration of the matter.

Public Elementary Schools.—The teachers are provided with cards to notify cases of infectious disease coming to their knowledge to the County Medical Officer of Health and myself, but their returns are rather misleading, as when, for instance, a case of scarlet fever or any other infectious disease occurs in a family, they include the rest of the family who are excluded, making it appear there are several cases instead of one.

There have been scattered cases of measles at Shedfield, Swanmore, Curdridge, Droxford, Upham, Bishop's Waltham, and a considerable number of cases at Westmeon, where the Schools were closed on the advice of the County Medical Officer of Health and myself from October 25th to November 12th inclusive. There were a few cases of whooping cough at Soberton, Exton, and Warnford, and a considerable number of cases at Denmead, where the Schools were closed on the advice of the County Medical Officer of Health and myself from January 25th to March 5th inclusive. I have visited the Schools when necessary, and in many instances have excluded families and children with infectious disease amongst them. Seventeen children with impetigo and three with chicken-pox were excluded from Newtown (Soberton) School; one child with German measles, three with impetigo, and eight with whooping cough from Exton School; eight children with impetigo, one with mumps, four with measles, and one with ringworm from Bishop's Waltham Schools; fourteen children with impetigo, one with chicken-pox, three with measles, and five with scabies from Denmead School; two children with measles, and two with chicken-pox from Curdridge School; two children with impetigo, three with measles, and twenty-nine with chicken-pox from Shedfield School; two children with chicken-pox, five with measles, one

with ringworm, five with impetigo, and one with a verminous head from Swanmore School; four children with measles, and one with impetigo from Droxford School; nine children with measles from Upham School; one with German measles, and one with a verminous head from Westmeon School; five children with body lice, one with whooping cough, six with impetigo, and one with ringworm from Soberton School; one child with ringworm from Hambledon School; and one child with whooping cough from Warnford School.

The schools are disinfected when necessary, two schools have been disinfected during the year. The sanitary condition, and water supply of the schools on the whole is satisfactory.

Milk Supply.—The character and wholesomeness of the milk supply provided within the District is very fair, but there is still room for improvement, in many instances the cows are not groomed, and consequently in a filthy condition during the winter months. There is a good deal of milk sent out of the District, and one man living just outside the District, supplying milk in the District. The condition of the dairies, cowsheds, and milkshops is very fair. The District Council have Regulations regulating same, since which have been in force there has been a considerable improvement. There are seventy-two cowkeepers, dairymen, and purveyors of milk registered in the District during the year; they are all periodically inspected, and kept in proper order. Twenty contraventions of the Order or Regulations were dealt with; eleven cowsheds cleansed and limewashed; two dairies cleansed and limewashed; one dairy ventilated; two dairies occupied without notice; one cowshed occupied without notice; and three businesses carried on with registering.

There is no administration in regard to milk. The Inspector under the Food and Drugs Act, employed by the County Council, has taken two samples of new milk during the year, and in each instance was found to be satisfactory. All cows in this District are out to graze the greater part of the day, and occupy the sheds at night time during the winter months,

and are only brought in to milk during the summer months ; there are no instances where cows are kept in their sheds day and night. The water supply to dairy farms is satisfactory.

Other Foods.—The sanitary condition of premises where foods are prepared, stored, and exposed for sale is satisfactory. The condition of the slaughter-houses is satisfactory, they are six in number, they are all frequently inspected (especially at the time of killing, when meat is examined for tuberculosis and other diseases), and kept in a cleanly state and lime-washed at frequent intervals ; in no instance was any defect found ; the defect standing over from last year was remedied. The meat sold throughout the District is of very good quality. No carcasses were condemned for tuberculosis, one cow's lungs were condemned for tuberculosis during the year ; it was not necessary to take any action under Section 117 of the Public Health Act, 1875. In some of the slaughter-houses the cattle and sheep are slaughtered with humane killers.

All the bakehouses, which number twenty-four, are registered, inspected, and kept in a cleanly state, and lime-washed twice a year ; one bakehouse was demolished, and a new one built in its place, and four became void and remained void at the end of the year ; in five instances defects were found, and remedied after notices by the Inspector. There are no underground bakehouses in the District.

Sale of Foods and Drugs Act.—Action under the Sale of Foods and Drugs Act is taken by an Inspector under the County Council ; twenty-six samples of food have been taken, and no adulteration found.

Housing.—The accommodation for the working classes on the whole is fairly satisfactory and fit for habitation, and there are sufficient houses for the working classes to meet the needs of the District ; there is plenty of open space about the houses, the majority of the houses having gardens or allotments, and the cleanliness of their surroundings is, on the whole, satis-

factory; those who are not cleanly when detected are dealt with. There is very little overcrowding in the district, seven cases were detected, and the overcrowding abated. At present there is no supervision over the erection of new houses, beyond the owner having to obtain a water certificate, certifying the water supply good, before the house can be occupied; the Inspector takes the sample, I analyse it and report to the Council; there has been no necessity to take legal proceedings during the year for occupying new houses without a water certificate. During the year the Council had under their consideration the question of adopting Building Bye-Laws for the District, but owing to the war they decided to postpone further consideration of the matter. There are very few wooden dwellings in the District, and very few van dwellers, mostly gipsies coming into the District in the fruit-picking season and at harvest time. No action taken under Part I. of the Housing of the Working Classes Act, and no action taken or needed under Part III.

One hundred and sixty-nine houses were dealt with under the Housing Town Planning Act, 1909, and records kept. Four houses were found to be unfit for habitation, two of which were closed, by the owners, voluntarily, one was put into good repair and occupied afterwards, and one is void, either to be demolished or repaired. No house was represented to the Council for a Closing Order. The following repairs and improvements were carried out:—Roofs, floors, walls, &c., repaired, 147; houses cleansed and distempered, 10; damp houses remedied, 22; eaves, gutters, and down-spouting repaired or provided, 2; insanitary privies abolished, 3; defective privies repaired, 1; earthclosets provided, 2; earthclosets repaired, 3; wells repaired or cleansed, 2; drains repaired, trapped, or provided, 5; defective waterclosets repaired, 5; samples of water from suspected wells, 3; making a total of 205. There are forty-nine houses left over at the end of the year to be dealt with, but, owing to the war and the increased cost of everything, the owners have not been pressed. Two statutory notices were served by order of

the Council, the remaining defects being remedied after verbal or informal notices from the Inspector.

Methods of Dealing with Infectious Disease.—Cases of infectious disease are notified by the medical attendant, and are at once visited by me, and isolated in their own homes (as there is no Isolation Hospital) and supplied with disinfectants, and the houses, &c., disinfected afterwards with formalin. Cases of infectious disease occurring at the Workhouse are isolated in the infectious block.

Nine cases of diphtheria were notified during the year, one at Bishop's Waltham, one at Newtown (Soberton), three at Shirrell Heath, two at Denmead, one at Soberton, and one at Shedfield ten cases of erysipelas were notified, two at Bishop's Waltham, one at Shirrell Heath, one at Denmead, two at Soberton, two at Swanmore, and two at Upham; twenty-one cases of scarlet fever were notified, seven cases at Bishop's Waltham, three at Newtown (Soberton), one at Shirrell Heath, two at Denmead, two at Westmeon, one at Durley, four at Curdridge, and one at Hambledon; two cases of enteric fever were notified, one at Newtown (Soberton) and the other at Shedfield; one case of puerperal fever was notified at Bishop's Waltham; two cases of cerebro-spinal fever were notified at Bishop's Waltham, one in March and the other in October, about a thousand troops were billeted in Bishop's Waltham and Swanmore, and were about to leave when the first case was notified in March, and, as a precaution, I had all the billets, public institutions, and public buildings used by the troops disinfected, I informed the Military Authorities, who rendered every assistance, the County Medical Officer of Health was notified, and sent out a medical man to take swabs of the contacts, all of which proved negative, the throats and noses of the contacts were sprayed with permanganate of potash solution one in a thousand.

Diphtheria antitoxin is supplied by the Council; a supply is given to each Poor Law Medical Officer in the District, and a supply is kept by me, and any medical man requiring antitoxin for

use in the case of poor people can get it by applying to me. Bacteriological aids to diagnosis are used when necessary, the County Council have a County Laboratory, free outfits have been sent to me, and any medical man requiring an outfit can have one by applying to me, the bacteriological examinations are carried out free of cost, the report sent direct to the medical man (and if positive a copy of the report to me), and a similar outfit is returned with the report.

The Schools are disinfected when necessary, two Schools were disinfected during the year, and children of families where there are cases of infectious disease, excluded from School when necessary.

Methods of Control of Tuberculosis.—All cases of tuberculosis, pulmonary or otherwise, as soon as notified are visited by me, the pulmonary cases are supplied with spit bottle, card of advice (advice to consumptives), paper handkerchiefs, and disinfectants to use in the spit bottle and about the house; they are given instructions as to open windows, sleeping in a room by themselves, they are told how to clean out the spit bottle and dispose of the sputum, and how they are a danger to themselves and other people; the house, where possible, is disinfected at once and again at intervals, the house is also disinfected with formalin, and the bedding, &c., with Izal on removal or death. Twenty-three visits were made on receipt of primary notifications, and a hundred and fifty-nine subsequent visits. Eighteen disinfections have been done, nine after death, one after patient left the District, four after patients leaving for sanatoriums, two after patients changing rooms, one shelter after death, and one shelter after patient left for sanatorium. The medical man attending a case of tuberculosis, suspecting anyone associated with the notified case, takes some of the sputum, and sends it to the County Laboratory for examination; and the School Medical Officers detecting a case of tuberculosis send a notification to me.

There were nineteen cases notified as suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis (one of which turned out not to be tuberculous)

during the year, six of which died, seven cases were sent to a sanatorium, three had the use of a tent, and two the use of shelters provided by the County Council. Several cases had treatment at the Tuberculosis Dispensary. There were four cases of non-pulmonary tuberculosis notified during the year, one case was sent to Bonchurch, one went to Hospital for treatment, and one case had the use of a private shelter, provided by a lady. There were twelve deaths from pulmonary tuberculosis, and two from non-pulmonary tuberculosis during the year.

Tents are supplied by the District Council for people in poor circumstances suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis for use in their own homes, where space permits erecting it, three cases had the use of tents during the year. There is no Hospital accommodation for consumptives in the District, beyond the Infectious Block at the Workhouse, which is used for cases occurring in the Workhouse, but not for outside cases.

CASES OF PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR.

	Under 1	1-5	5-15	15-25	25-45	45-65	65 upwards
Male	3	3	2	...	...
Female	2	4	4	1	...

CASES OF NON-PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR.

	Under 1	1-5	5-15	15-25	25-45	45-65	65 upwards
Male	1	2	...	...	...
Female	1	...	...	...	...

Water Analysis.—Eighteen samples of water have been analysed by me during the year, and action taken. In four instances waters were found unfit for drinking purposes; in one instance a new well was sunk; in another, a sample from a rain water tank with lead pipes, contained lead; in another the water supply was changed, and in another the well was cleaned out, and the manure in close proximity to the well removed.

Means of Preventing Mortality in Childbirth and in Infancy.—

There are very few certified midwives practising in the District; a few of the villages have a parish nurse, who, in the majority of cases, attend with a medical man. There has been only one case of puerperal fever notified during the year, which recovered. There has been no case of ophthalmia neonatorum during the year. There were seventeen deaths under one year of age during the year, one from meningitis, four from convulsions, one from bronchitis, three from pneumonia, one from diarrhœa, one from congenital malformation, three from premature birth, two from debility, and one from other causes.

Families in which there were cases of infectious disease were excluded from School, and the houses and Schools disinfected afterwards where necessary.

The infant death rate per 1000 births registered has decreased from 108.1 last year to 81.3 this year.

In the Hambledon District there were 96 legitimate and 7 illegitimate births, nine legitimate and one illegitimate deaths; in the Bishop's Waltham District there were 61 legitimate and four illegitimate births, and five legitimate deaths; in the Westmeon District there were 41 legitimate and no illegitimate births, and five legitimate deaths; one illegitimate child belonging to the District was born outside the District. Of the twelve illegitimate children born during the year one died.

The birth rate of the District has decreased from 19.4 last year to 17.1 this year.

The Notification of Births Act, 1907, is in force in the District, the births are notified, and the mothers are sent a pamphlet, "How to take care of the Baby," giving instructions on feeding the infant, and the general care of the baby.

The Administration of the Factory and Workshop Act. Nuisances under the Public Health Acts.

(1.) Sanitary Condition of Workshops and Workplaces.

- (a) **Cleanliness.**—In four instances there was want of cleanliness, in each instance it was brought to the notice of the occupier, and remedied.
- (b) **Ventilation.**—In one instance there was want of ventilation, which was remedied.
- (c) **Overcrowding.**—In no instance was there any overcrowding.
- (d) **Drainage of Floors.**—Satisfactory.
- (e) **Other Nuisances.**—None found.
- (f) **Provision of Suitable and Sufficient Sanitary Accommodation.**—In two instances insufficient sanitary accommodation was found, which was brought to the notice of the occupiers, and remedied.

(2.) Offences under the Factory and Workshop Act.

- (a) **Illegal Occupation of Underground Bakehouses (S. 101).**—There are no underground bakehouses in the District.
- (b) **Breach of Special Sanitary Requirements for Bakehouses.**—In five instances there was a breach of special sanitary requirements for bakehouses, which were remedied.

- (c) **Other Offences.**—In three instances there was failure to affix abstract of the Factory and Workshop Acts (S. 133, 1901); one matter was referred to H.M. Inspector, two matters were notified by H.M. Inspector, and two reports sent to him.

(3.) **Home Work.**—There is very little home work done in the District there have been only three people residing in the District doing home work, one of which works for a firm in another District. They are all employed in the making of wearing apparel. The home work is done under very good conditions. All outworkers' premises have been inspected, and in no instance has any sanitary defect been found, and there has been no case of infectious disease at any outworkers' premises.

(4.) **The Keeping of the List of Outworkers in Certain Branches of Industry, which are to be Furnished by Employers, the Transmission of the Name and Place of Employment of any such Outworker, who does not reside in the District, to the Council of the District, in which he works.**—A list of outworkers is kept by the Clerk to the District Council, and forwarded to the Inspector and myself twice a year, in February and August, and if there is any outworker, who does not reside in this District, employed by anyone in the District, the name of the outworker and the place of employment is transmitted to the Council of the District in which he works. There has been no case of an outworker residing in another District employed by anyone in this District, and only one case of an outworker residing in this District employed by people outside the District.

(5.) **The Keeping of a Register of Workshops.**—A Register of Workshops is kept by the Sanitary Inspector. There are fifty-three workshops on the register this year, being three less than last year, three being closed. One workshop was pulled down, and a new building erected. All workshops are periodically inspected and kept in proper order.

Local Government Board Inquiries.—None.

**IV.—Tabular Statements of Sickness and Mortality
within the District, classified according to Diseases,
Ages, and Localities.**

Table I. gives vital statistics of the whole District during 1915 and previous five years.

Table II. gives cases of infectious disease notified during 1915.

Table III. gives deaths of residents registered during the calendar year 1915, whether occurring within or without the District, classified by age and cause, and also deaths of residents or non-residents in institutions in the District, also the number of certified and uncertified deaths.

Table IV. gives the nett deaths from stated causes at various ages under one year of age, the nett legitimate and illegitimate births and deaths for the year 1915.

I calculate the death rate at 13.4, which is practically the same as last year. There was one death from measles, one from scarlet fever, two from whooping cough, one from diphtheria, five from influenza, two from cerebro-spinal meningitis, twelve from pulmonary tuberculosis, which is three less than the previous year, two from tuberculous meningitis, sixteen from malignant disease, which is one less than last year, seven of which occurred in the Hambledon District, four in the Bishop's Waltham District, and five in the Westmeon District, twenty-five from organic heart disease, nine from bronchitis, nine from pneumonia, two from accidents and diseases of pregnancy and parturition, seven from congenital debility and malformation including premature birth, four from accidents, and two from suicide.

The infant death rate under one year of age I calculate at 81.3 per 1000 births registered, which is considerably lower than the previous year, which was 108.1; there were 209 children born, belonging to the District, during the year (twelve of which were illegitimate), bringing the birth-rate down to 17.1, which is 2.3 less than the previous year. There were seventeen deaths of children under one year of age, one of which was illegitimate.

I enclose a copy of the Sanitary Inspector's report, giving an account of his work during the year, which has been carried out in a very satisfactory manner.

I remain, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

EDGAR C. PERN, M.O.H.

To the Droxford Rural District Council.

TABLE 1.
Vital Statistics of Whole District during 1915 and previous Years.

Year	Population estimated to Middle of each Year.	Births.			Total Deaths Registered in the District.		Transferable Deaths.		Nett Deaths belonging to the District.			
		Un-corrected Number.	Nett.		Number.	Rate.	of Non-residents registered in the District.	of Residents not registered in the District.	Under 1 year of age.		At all ages.	
			Number.	Rate.					Number.	Rate per 1000 Nett Births.	Number.	Rate.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1910	301	23.9	130	10.3	...	2	15	49.8	132	10.5
1911	...	292	294	22.7	167	12.09	1	21	30	102.04	187	14.4
1912	...	266	266	20.3	141	10.8	1	9	15	56.3	149	11.4
1913	...	263	265	20.04	131	9.9	...	16	13	49.05	147	11.1
1914	...	258	259	19.4	159	11.9	1	19	28	108.1	177	13.3
1915	...	207	209	17.1	152	12.4	2	12	17	81.3	162	13.4

Total Population at all Ages—12906; total Families or Separate Occupiers—3148, at Census of 1911.
Area of District in acres (land and inland water)—48647.

TABLE II.
Cases of Infectious Disease notified during the Year 1915.

Notifiable Disease.	Number of Cases notified.								Total Cases notified in each Locality.			Total Cases Removed to Hospital.
	At all Ages	At Ages—Years.						Hambleton	Bishop's Waltham.	Westmeon.		
		Under 1	1 and under 5 years.	5 and under 15 years.	15 and under 25 years.	25 and under 45 years.	45 and under 65 years.				65 and upwards	
Small-pox ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cholera, Plague ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diphtheria (including Membranous Croup)	9	1	7	1	...	...	...	9	...	...	...
Erysipelas ...	10	...	...	1	5	3	1	6	4	...	...
Scarlet fever ...	21	6	12	2	1	...	...	7	12	2	...
Typhus fever ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Enteric fever ...	2	...	...	1	1	...	...	2	...	...	...
Relapsing fever ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Continued fever ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Puerperal fever ...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...
Cerebro-spinal Meningitis ...	2	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	2	...	...
Poliomyelitis ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	To Sanatoria
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	18	...	4	7	6	1	...	10	5	3	6	
Other forms Tuberculosis	4	...	1	3	...	...	...	1	2	1	To Hospital
Totals ...	67	7	24	15	15	4	2	35	26	6	7	

Isolation Hospital, Sanatoria, &c.—None.

TABLE IV.
Infant Mortality, 1915.

Nett Deaths from stated causes at various Ages under 1 Year of Age.

CAUSES OF DEATH.			Under 1 Week	1-2 Weeks	2-3 Weeks	3-4 Weeks	Total under 4 Weeks	4 Weeks & under 3 Months	3 Months & under 6 Months	6 Months & under 9 Months	9 Months & under 12 Months	Total Deaths Under 1 Year
<i>All Causes :—</i>												
Certified	...	...	5	2	...	...	7	5	2	...	2	16
Uncertified	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1
Small-pox	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Chicken-pox	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Measles	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diphtheria & Croup	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Erysipelas	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Tuberculous Meningitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Abdominal Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other Tuberculous Diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Meningitis (not Tuberculous)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1
Convulsions	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	2	1	...	...	4
Laryngitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1
Pneumonia (all forms)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	1	3
Diarrhoea	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1
Enteritis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Gastritis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Syphilis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Rickets	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Suffocation, overlying	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Injury at Birth	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Atelectasis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Congenital Malformations	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1
Premature Birth	...	...	2	...	...	...	2	1	...	...	...	3
Atrophy, Debility, and Marasmus	...	...	1	1	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	2
Other Causes	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1
			5	2	...	...	7	6	2	...	2	17

Nett Births in { Legitimate, 197. the year { Illegitimate, 12.	Nett Deaths in { Legitimate Infants, 16. the year of { Illegitimate Infants, 1.
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Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the Year 1915 for the Rural District of Droxford,

On the administration of the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901, in connection with

Factories, Workshops, Workplaces, and Homework.

1.—Inspection of Factories, Workshops, and Workplaces, INCLUDING INSPECTIONS MADE BY SANITARY INSPECTORS OR INSPECTORS OF NUISANCES.

Premises. I	Number of		
	Inspections. 2	Written Notices. 3	Prosecutions. 4
Factories (including Factory Laundries) ... ..	...	...	...
Workshops (including Workshop Laundries)	283	...	...
Workplaces (other than Outworkers' Premises included in Part 3 of this Report)... ..	...	...	...
Total	283	...	...

2.—Defects Found in Factories, Workshops, and Workplaces.

Particulars.	Number of Defects.			Number of Prosecutions.
	Found.	Remedied.	Referred to H.M. Inspector.	
	2	3	4	
I	2	3	4	5
<i>Nuisances under the Public Health Acts :—*</i>				
Want of Cleanliness	4	4	...	...
Want of Ventilation	1	1	...	...
Overcrowding ... ..	...	...	...	...
Want of Drainage of Floors ... ..	...	...	...	...
Other Nuisances ... ..	...	...	...	...
Sanitary Accommodation {	insufficient	2	2	...
	unsuitable or defective ... ..	...	...	...
	not separate for sexes ... ..	...	...	...
<i>Offences under the Factory and Workshop Act :—</i>				
Illegal occupation of underground bakehouse (s. 101) ... ..	...	...	...	...
Breach of special sanitary requirements for bake-houses (ss. 97 to 100)	5	5	...	...
Other offences (excluding offences relating to out-work, which are included in Part 3 of this Report)	3	3	1	...
Total	15	15	1	...

* Including those specified in sections 2, 3, 7 and 8 of the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901, as remediable under the Public Health Acts.

3. Home Work.

OUTWORKERS' LISTS, SECTION 107.																	OUTWORK IN UNWHOLESOME PREMISES, SECTION 108.				OUTWORK IN INFECTED PREMISES, SECTIONS 109, 110.			
NATURE OF WORK.	Lists received from Employers.						Notices served on Occu- piers as to keeping or sending lists.	Prosecutions.		Instances.	Prosecutions.	Notices served.	Instances.	Orders made (S. 110).	Prosecutions (Sections 109, 110).									
	Sending twice in the year.		Sending once in the year.		Lists.	Outworkers.		Failing to keep or permit inspection of lists.	Failing to send lists.															
	Lists.	Outworkers.		Con-tractors		Work-men.																		
		Con-tractors	Work-men.																					
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16									
Wearing apparel—	4																							
Making, &c.	6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cleaning and washing									
Household linen									
Lace, lace curtains and nets...									
Curtains & furniture hangings									
Furniture and upholstery									
Electro-plate									
File making									
Brass and brass articles									
Fur pulling									
Cables and chains									
Anchors and grapnels...									
Cart gear									
Locks, latches, and keys									
Umbrellas, &c.									
Artificial flowers									
Nets, other than wire nets									
Tents									
Sacks									
Racquet and tennis balls									
Paper, etc., boxes, paper bags									
Brush making									
Pea picking									
Feather sorting									
Carding, &c., of buttons, &c.									
Stuffed toys									
Basket making...									
Chocolates and sweetmeats									
Cosaques, Christmas crackers,									
Christmas stockings, &c.									
Textile weaving									
Total ...	4	...	6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

4. Registered Workshops.

Workshops on the Register (s. 131) at the end of the year.					Number.
1					2
Important classes of workshops, such as workshop bakehouses, may be enumerated here.	{	Workshops	...	...	53
		Bakehouses	...	...	25
	Total number of workshops on Register				78

5. Other Matters.

Class.					Number.
1					2
Matters notified to H.M. Inspector of Factories :—					
Failure to affix Abstract of the Factory and Workshop Act (s. 133, 1901)					3
Action taken in matters referred by H.M. Inspector as remediable under the Public Health Acts, but not under the Factory & Workshop Act (s. 5) {					2
Notified by H.M. Inspector					
Reports (of action taken) sent to H.M. Inspector					2
Other	...	...	...	...	1
Underground Bakehouses (s. 101) :—					
In use at the end of the year					Nil

ANNUAL
REPORT of the SANITARY INSPECTOR

For the year ending December 31st, 1915.

GENTLEMEN,

I beg to submit the Report of the various matters dealt with during the year ending December 31st, 1915.

Housing and Town Planning, &c., Act, 1909.

Inspection of District Regulations, 1910.

Under the above Regulations, 169 houses were inspected, of this number four were found unfit for human habitation, two of which were voluntarily closed, one was put in thorough repair and is again occupied, whilst the remaining one is either about to be demolished or put in habitable condition.

Defects were found in 106 houses, 57 houses were repaired, and 49 were remaining over at the end of the year.

A larger number of repairs than is usually the case were remaining over at the end of the year, as owing to the scarcity of labour and greatly increased cost of materials prevailing, I have not unduly pressed owners to carry out structural repairs, unless they were of urgent sanitary necessity.

No houses were represented for Closing Orders.

Two statutory notices were served by order of the Council.

The following summary shows the various matters dealt with :—

Repairs executed to roofs, floors, walls, &c. ...	...	147
Houses cleansed and distempered ...	...	10
Houses overcrowded and abated ...	...	—
Damp houses remedied ...	...	22
Eves, gutters, and downspouts repaired or provided ...	...	2
Insanitary privies abolished ...	...	3
Defective privies repaired ...	...	1
Earth closets provided ...	...	2
Earth closets repaired ...	...	3
Samples of water from suspected wells ...	...	3
Wells repaired or cleansed ...	...	2
Wells provided ...	...	—
Drains repaired, trapped, or provided ...	...	5
Defective w.c.'s repaired ...	...	5
Total ...		205

Public Health (Water) Act, 1878.

Eighteen samples of water were taken from wells situated in various parts of the District, and were analysed by your Medical Officer of Health.

Of the above, 14 were reported upon as being fit for drinking purposes, the remainder showing traces of pollution.

Five wells were repaired and three cleansed.

During the summer complaints were made regarding the water supply in the village of Droxford, and on the report of your Medical Officer of Health, I was instructed by the Council to advise the residents to boil all water before drinking, this I did by means of house-to-house visits.

Dairies, Cowsheds, and Milkshops Order, 1885.

There were 72 cowkeepers, dairymen, and purveyors of milk registered at the end of the year.

During the year one discontinued business, one died, one transferred, and three commenced business and were duly placed on the register.

The majority of the cowsheds are well-constructed, and kept in cleanly condition, but the owners of the remaining cowsheds do not appear to fully appreciate the necessity for scrupulous care and cleanliness in milk production, for whereas the sheds themselves are kept in conformity with the Regulations, the approaches and yards are often in very bad state, manure and liquid filth being kept too close to the sheds, consequently the cows' lower extremities and udders become soiled, to the ultimate detriment of the milk, clean milk from dirty cows being almost impossible.

Twenty contraventions of the above Order were dealt with, and are summarised as follows :—

Cowsheds cleansed and lime-washed	...	...	11
Dairies cleansed and lime-washed	...	...	2
Dairies ventilated	...	...	1
Dairies occupied without notice	...	...	2
Cowsheds occupied without notice	...	...	1
Businesses carried on not registered	...	...	3
			—
			20

Factory and Workshop Act, 1901.

At the close of the year there were fifty-three workshops and twenty-five retail bakehouses on the register.

Three workshops were closed, one demolished and new building erected, four bakehouses became void, and one was demolished and new, up-to-date bake-house erected in its place.

One hundred and eighty visits were paid to workshops and 61 to bakehouses during the year, and 14 to outworkers' premises.

The particulars of matters dealt with are tabulated in your Medical Officer of Health's Report of the administration of the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901.

Infectious Diseases.

Upon receiving notice from your Medical Officer of Health of the occurrence of infectious disease in any house or school within the District, visits were made, the cases investigated, and disinfectants supplied. Frequent visits were also made to ensure that the directions of your Medical Officer of Health regarding the isolation of patients, contact children being kept from School, and other necessary precautions were duly observed.

Owing to the large number of men engaged on military service having their homes within the District, extra precautions were necessary in dealing with infectious cases; where men were home on leave and about to rejoin their units, or where men were expected on leave or had visited infected families, particulars of these cases were forwarded to the respective Commanding Officers, and were dealt with by them accordingly.

At the beginning of the year one case of spotted-fever was reported at Bishop's Waltham; troops which were billeted were leaving, and, as an extra precaution, on instructions received from your Medical Officer of Health, I disinfected all billets vacated by the troops, including the public buildings and institutions.

Any sanitary defects found in connection with the infectious disease investigations were notified to the owners or persons responsible, and were duly remedied.

Cases of tuberculosis were visited periodically, supplied with disinfectants, and premises disinfected after decease, or on patients leaving for sanatorium treatment or leaving the District.

Where tents were loaned to patients I have kept them in repair as far as practicable, new ropes, &c., also being supplied and fitted where required.

One hundred and sixty-six visits were paid to infectious and tuberculous cases.

Disinfection was carried out at sixty-six houses and one School.

Slaughter-houses and Butchers' Shops, &c.

There are six slaughter-houses within the District.

Two hundred and eleven visits were paid to the above during the year.

The visits were made whenever possible during the time slaughtering was in progress. One case of tuberculous lungs (cow) were detected, and were condemned for food, the remainder of the carcase being sound.

The animals killed were again of high quality, notwithstanding the depressing conditions existing throughout the year owing to the war, and it is an exception to find any of the beef animals other than oxen slaughtered in either of the above slaughter-houses.

As is usual in the District, more pigs were killed on the premises of cottagers than in the slaughter-houses, making inspection very difficult.

In some of the slaughter-houses humane killers are used, although the users are not unanimous as to its being the ideal instrument for slaughtering at present, the advantages and disadvantages of the instruments on the market being criticised, with a sound practical knowledge by the butchers concerned, who are one and all fully appreciative of the necessity for humane treatment of animals to be slaughtered.

The slaughter-houses are kept in a cleanly state.

Two knackers' yards are licensed in the District, which are periodically visited, and are kept in good condition and clean. Thirty visits were made.

Petroleum Acts.

Fifteen licences were in force for the storage of petroleum spirit, and 15 for the storage of carbide of calcium at the end of the year.

The whole of the above were kept in conformity with the requirements of the above Acts.

Scavenging at Bishop's Waltham.

The sanitary conveniences within the scavenging area at the end of the year were approximately as follows :—130 e.c.'s, 140 privies, and 105 cesspools.

Five privies were abolished and earth closets substituted.

The sanitary buckets are emptied twice weekly. House refuse is collected from the main portion of the area twice weekly, and from the outlying portions upon request.

Cesspools are also emptied upon request.

At the beginning of the year troops were billeted at Bishop's Waltham for a short period, which necessitated prompt measures being taken to deal with the sanitary arrangements; after consultation with the Officer Commanding, I was able to arrange with the Council's contractor to collect and dispose of the excreta and refuse daily, the Military Authorities paying the whole cost of the work. A list of billets was supplied me, which I inspected, and in the several instances where I reported on nuisances existing through insufficient latrine accommodation, overcrowding, &c., were promptly remedied by the responsible officer. Similar methods were employed regarding troops billeted at Swanmore.

The amount of work carried out by the contractor in dealing with the above was as follows :—

Cesspools emptied	...	...	117	} loads removed	341
Privies emptied	...	...	141		
Sanitary buckets	...	...	...	,,	229
House refuse collected	...	...	...	,,	281
					<hr/>
Total loads					851

In spite of the fact that the contractor (Mr. J. Phillips) took over the work at the beginning of the year at practically a minute's notice (on Mr. Pyle taking military service), it has been carried out in a highly satisfactory manner during a very trying year.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

H. BROOKS,

Inspector of Nuisances, &c.

Summary of Sanitary Work done in the Inspector of Nuisances' Department during the Year 1915.

		NUMBER OF		ABATEMENT NOTICES.		NUISANCES ABATED AFTER NOTICES BY		NUISANCE REMAINING UNABATED
		Inspections and Observations made	Defects found	Informal by Inspector	Formal by Authority	Inspector	Authority	
Dwelling-houses and Schools	Foul Conditions	71	29	29	...	21	...	8
	Structural Defects	196	282	282	...	187	...	95
	Over-crowding	11	7	7	...	7	...	0
	Unfit for Habitation	4	4	4	...	3	...	1
	Lodging-houses ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0
	Dairies and Milkshops	51	3	3	...	3	...	0
	Cowsheds	94	13	13	...	13	...	0
	Bakehouses	58	5	5	...	5	...	0
	Slaughter-Houses	211	...	...	...	...	...	0
	Canal Boats	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Ashpits and Privies ...	180	24	24	2	16	...	8
	Deposits of Refuse and Manure	23	7	5	...	...	...	2
House Drainage	Water Closets	7	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Defective Traps	9	9	9	...	9	...	0
	No Disconnection	4	4	3	...	3	...	1
	Other Faults	46	25	25	...	6	...	19
	Water Supply	180	8	8	...	8	...	0
	Pigsties ...	53	6	6	...	6	...	0
	Animals improperly kept	4	4	4	...	3	...	1
	Offensive Trades	31	4	4	...	4	...	0
	Smoke Nuisances	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Other Nuisances	281	63	63	...	54	...	9
Totals ...		1514	497	494	2	348	...	144

Complaints received	...	...	...	53
Seizures of Unwholesome Food		...	...	—
Samples of Food taken for Analysis		...	...	—
„ „ found adulterated		...	...	—
„ Water taken for analysis		...	...	18
„ „ Condemned as Unfit for Use			...	4

Precautions Against Infectious Disease.

Lots of Infected Bedding Stoved or Destroyed	...	—
Houses Disinfected after Infectious Disease	...	66
Schools „ „ „	...	1
Prosecutions for not Notifying Existence of Infectious Disease		—
Convictions „ „ „		—
Prosecutions for Exposure of Infected Persons or Things		—
Convictions „ „ „		—

HOUSING AND TOWN PLANNING ACT.

INSPECTION OF HOUSES.

Is there any scarcity of houses and where?—No.

Number of new houses built in 1915—4.

General Character—Cottages.

Any Town Planning Scheme contemplated?—No.

Who has been designated as the Inspecting Officer under Article II. of the Housing Regulations, 1910?—Medical Officer of Health and Inspector of Nuisances.

Are records submitted to L.A. at each meeting?—Yes.

					Number.
Houses inspected	...	...	...	...	169
Section 17.					
Dwelling-houses found unfit for human habitation	...	...	...	...	3
Representations made		...	...	...	—
Closing Order made		...	...	...	—
Houses made habitable without Closing Orders					2
Houses made habitable as result of Closing Orders					—
Houses demolished		...	...	...	—
Houses unfit but still occupied			...	...	1
Section 15.					
Defects reported	...	...	...	...	343
Defects remedied	...	...	...	...	205
Notices served	...	...	...	...	2

